



Child Support Awareness Month

California Department of Child Support Services



California Celebrates Child Support Awareness Month at the State Capitol

On Tuesday, August 12, 2003, you could find government officials, advocates, parents, and children convening at California's State Capitol to celebrate Child Support Awareness Month. The celebration was preceded by a proclamation issued by Governor Gray Davis on August 1, 2003 to recognize August as Child Support Awareness Month.

This year, the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) has a lot to celebrate. In its third year of operation since the new Department was created, DCSS has made remarkable improvements to the child support services program. The National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA) awarded DCSS with the Most Improved

Program Award at their annual conference held this August in Orlando, Florida.

Curt Child, DCSS Director, spoke about the Department's achievements



Grantland Johnson comments on the achievements of the Department of Child Support Services.

over the past three years, emphasizing DCSS's commitment to customer service. Grantland Johnson, Secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency,

also praised the Department for revamping the state's child support services program into an award-winning program, stating DCSS was well on its way to earning the coveted NCSEA Outstanding Program Award.

Cheryl Sprague, of the Association for Children for the Enforcement of Support, and Xavier Slaughter, of Rubicon Employment Services Fathers at Work Initiative, applauded DCSS for the improvements in customer service and access to services.

Children were invited to the event to enjoy the activities and remind the public that the Department is dedicated to improving the lives of

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The public gathers for the press conference.



Sam and Jake warm up to Dinger.



Guest speakers (l-r) Curt Child, Grantland Johnson, Cheryl Sprague and Xavier Slaughter

New Department Logo Unveiled

The new Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) logo was unveiled at the State Capitol on Tuesday, August 12, 2003. The logo was designed by Brian Lew, a student of the California State University Sacramento Graphic Design Department, in collaboration with DCSS.

Brian Lew was congratulated by Health and Human Services Secretary Grantland Johnson and DCSS Director Curt Child for designing a logo that emphasizes the positive goals, views, and the mission of DCSS. ■



Brian Lew poses next to the new Department of Child Support Services logo.



DCSS staff (l-r) Michael Coleman, Lynn Cavanaugh, Curt Child, and Mike Botula

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Courtney Macias, Taylor Macias, and Celeste Flores (l-r) enjoy spinning the prize wheel.



Diana Macias, volunteer, puts the finishing touches on her masterpiece.

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- ♦ Sacramento River Cats
- ♦ Sacramento Zoo
- ♦ San Diego Chargers
- ♦ San Diego Padres
- ♦ Spaans Cookies
- ♦ The Point

California's children and families. The children visited different stations to get their faces painted, make personalized buttons, spin the prize wheel, and take photos with Sacramento River Cats mascot, Dinger.

DCSS staff were available to answer questions and provide information and reading materials to the public at the child support services information table.

More information on child support educational events throughout the state can be viewed at www.childsup.ca.gov/calendar. ■



Dinger cheers for child support.



Dinger spreads some love to the students of Alpha Omega Amazing Kids of Oakland, California.



Child support staff stand behind the new Department of Child Support Services logo.



Alpha Omega Amazing Kids enjoying the refreshments.

Find us on the web at:
www.childsup.ca.gov
Or call us toll-free at:
1-866-249-0773

California's Child Support Services Program Receives National Recognition

This month, the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) received public recognition for its three years of hard work since it was established. On August 8, 2003 Curt Child, DCSS Director, accepted the Most Improved Program Award from the National Child Support Enforcement Association.

NCSEA is the national umbrella organization of more than 65,000 child support professionals in all 50 states, U.S. Territories, tribal nations and a number of foreign countries.

"This National Recognition truly gives us something to celebrate during Child Support Awareness Month," says Curt Child.

Under the Child Support Reform Legislation signed by Governor Gray Davis in 1999, local child support agencies in the state's 58 counties are overseen by DCSS. The California child support program is the nation's largest, serving more than two million children and collecting more than \$2 billion dollars in child support every year. ■